



FARM BILL FORUM



"The 2007 Farm Bill will affect America's entire agricultural community, so I believe our entire agricultural community should have a say in the process. I welcome input from across the Nation about what is working and what we can do to improve farm policy."

Mike Johanns, Secretary of Agriculture



- 1** How should farm policy address any unintended consequences that discourage the next generation of farmers from entering production agriculture?

- 2** How should farm policy be designed to maximize U.S. competitiveness and our country's ability to effectively compete in global markets?

- 3** How should farm policy be designed to effectively and fairly distribute assistance to producers?

- 4** How can farm policy best achieve conservation and environmental goals?

- 5** How can Federal rural and farm programs provide effective assistance in rural areas?

- 6** How should agricultural product development, marketing, and research-related issues be addressed in the next farm bill?



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In the coming months, senior USDA officials will participate in a series of public forums across the country to obtain input for the development of the 2007 Farm Bill.

Locations, dates, and times of the forums will be announced in USDA press releases and will be made available on the USDA website, www.usda.gov.

The 2002 Farm Bill authorizes many Federal programs, including farm price and income support programs, and new legislation must be enacted prior to its expiration in 2007 to ensure continuity of these important programs.

The USDA is committed to obtaining input from the public to develop recommendations for the new farm bill. Please submit your comments to Secretary Johanns by one of the following methods:

World Wide Web:
www.usda.gov/farmbill

U.S. Mail:
USDA Farm Bill Forum
Secretary Mike Johanns
C/O Office of Executive Secretariat
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Room 16-A-4
Washington, DC 20250-3355

Note: All mail is subject to government inspection and is a matter of public record.

En Espanol:
www.usda.gov/sptfarmbill



In 1862, fifty-eight percent of Americans were farmers, so when he founded the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), President Abraham Lincoln dubbed it the "People's Department." Today, USDA remains committed to American farmers and ranchers, but also continues its legacy of being a department for the people.

The United States Department of Agriculture:

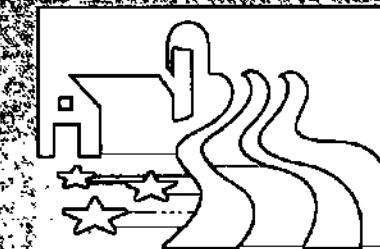
- Leads the Federal anti-hunger effort with the Food Stamp, School Lunch, School Breakfast, and WIC Programs.
- Is the steward of our Nation's 1.92 million acres of national forests and rangeland.
- Is the country's largest conservation agency, encouraging voluntary efforts to protect soil, water, and wildlife on privately owned land.
- Provides housing, modern telecommunications, and safe drinking water to rural America.
- Is a leader in research, ranging from human nutrition to more effective and efficient growing technologies.
- Helps to ensure open markets for U.S. agricultural products and provides food aid to foreign countries.

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United States Department of Agriculture



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*Information about the USDA
nationwide listening tour*